


CAMBORNE - REDRUTH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. D. K. Needham, M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

TOGETHER WITH THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

C. F. Baxter, M.S.I.A.

1955

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EARLE & CO., PRINTERS

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

For the year ending 31st December, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1955.

The year 1955 was a quiet one medically and I have nothing outstanding to report on that front.

The most important thing was the beginning of clearance and demolition of totally unfit houses — let us omit the word “slum”, which has connotations not really applicable in most cases. Further blocks and single houses have been inspected with a view to clearance and rehousing of the tenants, and plans for some new housing for this purpose have been begun.

In most cases the houses have been in an extremely poor state of repair, regardless of lack of amenity, and the owners have agreed that they were better rid of them, as the rents failed to cover even a minimum of upkeep.

During inspection of property, however, it was noticed that there were everywhere indications that houses which had been left out of consideration in the earlier survey were beginning to decay to an irreparable degree. It is significant that during the current year the Public Health Committee has been called on to condemn houses which had become hopelessly derelict, but which had not, however, been included in the Council's Clearance Survey. Only recently I myself visited a house which outwardly had appeared quite satisfactory but whose roof timbers were so rotten that the whole roof has now collapsed and the tenants have to live on the ground floor. For lack of maintenance this has occurred, and the money required to re-roof cannot possibly be obtainable from a rent of 5s. 0d. per week. Thus a well-built stone house joins the limbo to which many of the traditional cob constructed houses have already been consigned.

It is clear to us in the Public Health Department that, big as is the problem of clearance and rebuilding, the problem of saving the saveable is far greater.

There can be no doubt that what are needed are — firstly, the provision of the money needed to repair the saveable houses whose owners are not in a position to provide it themselves ; secondly, the application of a new system of rents to enable repairs to be kept up and repayment of capital lent to be made.

This solution is, of course, not new ; everybody concerned knows quite well what is needed, and has known it for some years.

But, when is the necessary action to be taken ? That is the question which all Local Authorities should require to have answered.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G. D. K. NEEDHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1. Statistics.

Area	22,411 acres
Estimated mid-year population	35,410
Average number of persons per acre	1.53
Number of inhabited houses	11,692
Average number of inhabited houses per acre...	0.54
Average number of persons per house	3.02
Rateable value	£154,865
Product of a penny rate	£610

2. Industrial Position of the District.

The number of persons insured under the National Insurance Acts in the Camborne-Redruth areas at 31st December, 1955, was :-

	Males	Females	Totals
Over the age of 15 years ...	10,809	4,448	15,257

The number of unemployed persons (insured) at 31st December, 1955, was :—

	Males	Females	Totals
Under the age of 18 years ...	15	8	23
Over the age of 18 years ...	331	111	442
	<hr/> 346	<hr/> 119	<hr/> 465

New Industries opened during the year.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. JAQUEMAND, LTD., Cross Street, Camborne.
(Branch of Portreath Road, Redruth,
Factory). | Light Clothing
Manufacturer. |
|---|---------------------------------|

Comment regarding employment position.

(a) MEN

— **Camborne.** The outlook for skilled men in the engineering and building industries is extremely bright. As far as engineering is concerned there are many vacancies for skilled lathe operators and metal machinists. (This demand exists throughout the country as a whole.) Masons, carpenters and painters have not had any lengthy periods of unemployment, masons in particular are always in great demand. Labourers are having great difficulty in finding permanent employment, this could be partly remedied if more skilled craftsmen were available. The credit squeeze has not yet had any noticeable effect on the distributive trades.

Redruth. The employment position was better than in the previous year and no bulk "short-time" working occurred. Unemployment in respect of able-bodied men was seldom prolonged.

(b) **WOMEN** — **Camborne.** Camborne is fortunate in that it has many factories employing female labour. Broadly speaking good opportunities exist for girls and women willing to do factory work and who can work shifts. Vacancies for domestics in private houses and hospitals arise quite frequently. It is not anticipated that the position will deteriorate in the foreseeable future.

Redruth. Demands for women in industry and commerce were disappointing, except for skilled sewing machinists.

(c) **JUVENILES** — **Camborne.** For some years now the number of juveniles remaining unemployed for any length of time has been very small indeed. With the possible exception of boys requiring the building trade apprenticeships it has been possible to place juveniles in employment suitable to their age, experience and ability. The outlook remains bright and it is anticipated that it will be possible to place juveniles in the future with the same success that has been enjoyed in past years.

Redruth. Opportunities for employment for boys and girls were numerous and many were placed before they left school, so that they entered into a career soon after leaving at the school term.

VITAL STATISTICS.

3. Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	206	253	459
Illegitimate	19	9	28
Totals ...	225	262	487

4. Birth Rate.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Live Birth Rate (Crude) ...	13.75	14.30	14.04	14.69	14.84
Using comparability factor 1.01 Birth Rate ...				13.89	
England and Wales 1955 Birth Rate ...				15.0	

5. Still Births.

	Males	Females	Total		
Legitimate	4	13	17		
Illegitimate	2	—	2		
	—	—	—		
Totals ...	6	13	19		
	—	—	—		
1955 Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) ...				0.53	
England and Wales 1955 ...				0.35	
1955 Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births) ...				37.55	
England and Wales 1955 ...				23.1	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ...	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
	37.55	38.02	31.00	22.49	35.24

6. Neo-Natal Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	Females	Total		
Legitimate	4	9	13		
Illegitimate	1	—	1		
	—	—	—		
	5	9	14		
	—	—	—		
1955 Neo-Natal Death Rate ...	9.95	per 1,000 live births.			
Camborne-Redruth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Neo-Natal Death Rate ...	28.74	9.95	18.1	19.11	32.50

7. Infant Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age (including those under 4 weeks)

	Males	Females	Total		
Legitimate	4	10	14		
Illegitimate	1	—	1		
	—	—	—		
Totals ...	5	10	15		
	—	—	—		
1955 Infant Mortality Rate ...	30.81	per 1,000 live births			
England and Wales Mortality Rate ...	24.9	per 1,000 live births			
Camborne-Redruth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Infant Mortality Rate ...	30.81	23.71	22.1	27.02	36.31

8. Maternal Mortality.

Total number of Maternal Deaths ... Nil.

9. Deaths.

	Males	Females	Total		
Total number of deaths from all causes ...	222	265	487		
1955 Death Rate ...	13.75 per 1,000 estimated population.				
Using comparability factor of 0.87 Death Rate ...	11.96 per 1,000 estimated population				
England and Wales ...	11.7 per 1,000 estimated population				
Camborne-Redruth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Death Rate (Crude) ...	13.75	12.92	15.97	13.61	14.92

Cancer

Cancer	Males	Females	Total		
Total deaths from malignant disease ...	36	54	90		
1955 Death Rate (Specific) ...	2.54 per 1,000 estimated population				
	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Cancer Death Rate ...	2.54	1.86	2.23	2.01	2.18

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total		
Total deaths from cardio-vascular disease ...	108	147	255		
1955 Death Rate ...	7.20 per 1,000 estimated population				
Cardio-vascular	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Death Rate	7.20	7.53	9.23	—	—

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total		
Total deaths from respiratory disease ...	18	14	32		
1955 Respiratory Disease					
Death Rate ...	0.90 per 1,000 estimated population				
Respiratory Disease	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Death Rate	0.90	0.93	1.47	—	—

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis	Males	Females	Total		
Total deaths from respiratory T.B.	9	2	11		
Total deaths from non-respiratory T.B. ...	—	—	—		
	—	—	—		
Totals ...	9	2	11		
	—	—	—		
Tuberculosis Death Rate ...	0.31 per 1,000 estimated population.				
Camborne-Redruth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.31	0.36	0.28	0.39	0.34

10. Deaths from all Causes.

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	2	11
2. Tuberculosis, non-respiratory	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	1	1
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infection	—	1	1
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	8	17
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	10	10
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	31	54
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	2	6	8
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	22	35	57
18. Coronary disease, angina	34	29	63
19. Hypertension with heart disease	6	7	13
20. Other heart disease	38	58	96
21. Other circulatory disease	8	16	24
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	4	6	10
24. Bronchitis	7	7	14
25. Other disease of respiratory system	7	1	8
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	1	5
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	5	4	9
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	1	3	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	28	44
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	—	4
34. All other accidents	3	1	4
35. Suicide	2	2	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Totals	222	265	487

11. Comparative Birth and Death Rates, 1954.

*Using comparability factors		Camborne — Redruth	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns (including London)	160 County Towns (Resident Population 25,000- 20,000 at 1951 census)	London Administra- tive County
Births ...	1.01					
Deaths ...	0.87					
(Rates per 1,000 Home Population)						
Births						
*Live Births ...		13.89	15.0	14.9	14.9	15.1
Still Births ...		0.53	0.35	—	—	—
		37.55 (a)	23.1 (a)	23.2 (a)	23.3 (a)	20.2 (a)
(a) per 1,000 Live Births						
Deaths						
*All Causes ...		11.96	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.5
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough.		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ...		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...		0.31	0.14	0.17	0.13	0.17
Influenza ...		0.00	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.05
Smallpox ...		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Polio- myelitis (includ- ing polio- encephalitis) ...		0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia ...		0.28	0.50	0.53	0.45	0.63

12. Population.

	Registrar General's Estimated Figure	Births	Deaths	Birth and Death Ratio
1938 ...	35,000	463	540	— 77
1939 ...	35,000	514	566	— 52
1940 ...	35,000	486	567	— 81
1941 ...	35,000	—	—	—
1942 ...	35,000	542	472	— 70
1943 ...	34,670	646	510	+ 136
1944 ...	34,670	587	510	+ 77
1954 ...	33,850	514	481	+ 33
1946 ...	34,330	636	502	+ 134
1947 ...	34,830	715	536	+ 179
1948 ...	35,500	611	514	+ 97
1949 ...	35,650	571	520	+ 51
1950 ...	35,800	517	500	+ 17
1951 ...	35,230	523	525	— 2
1952 ...	35,260	521	480	+ 41
1953 ...	35,380	498	565	— 67
1954 ...	35,450	506	457	+ 49
1955 ...	35,410	487	487	—

13. Comment.

Births and Birth Rate

The annual decline in the number of births and in the birth rate continued in 1955, and was, in fact, a rather greater decline than in previous years.

It is a very curious fact that considerably more girls were born than boys, directly opposite to what is usually expected. In all, 262 girls were born and 225 boys, a difference of 37.

The figures in previous years were :—

		Male Births	Female Births	Excess of Male over Female
1948	...	304	307	— 3
1949	...	289	282	7
1950	...	270	247	23
1951	...	266	257	9
1952	...	271	250	21
1953	...	262	236	26
1954	...	253	253	—
1955	...	225	262	— 37

Still Births

The still birth rate remains high, as has been noted in previous years, and is well above the national level. Admittedly the numbers on which the figures are worked out are small each year, but taking all years together there seems to be no tendency for the figure to diminish.

Neo-Natal Deaths and Infant Deaths

At first sight there appears to have been a rather serious rise in deaths of infants under 4 weeks. However, there has been a corresponding fall, from 7 to 1, in the number of deaths of children over 4 weeks but under one year. The total infant mortality therefore remains much as before.

Causes of Infant Deaths

	Males	Females	Total	
Prematurity	3	4	7)
Prematurity associated with other defect or disease ...	1	2	3	) 10
Injury or disease of child ...	—	2	2)
Defect of child	—	2	2	) 5
Operation	—	1	1)
	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	11	15	15
	—	—	—	—

It will be seen from these figures that prematurity remains a main or subsidiary cause of death in twice as many infant deaths as all other causes put together. Clearly it is into the causes of premature births that future investigation must be directed.

Deaths and the Death Rate

There has been a small rise in the number of deaths in the district during the year compared with 1954, but when the comparability factor is taken into consideration the amended rate is little worse than the national rate.

There has been a rise in the cancer death rate to a level well above that of last year, and more in conformity with experience elsewhere.

Deaths from disease of the heart and arteries, and from lung disease (other than cancer and tuberculosis) have shown a slight fall from last year's figures.

Tuberculosis Death Rate

The tuberculosis death rate remains a little below the five year average, but more than double the rate for England and Wales. The deaths were, however, concentrated almost entirely among the higher age-groups, and no deaths from tuberculosis have been reported in the under 15 group since 1949.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Care of the Expectant Mother

The care of the expectant mother is undertaken by local practitioners and at the Redruth Hospital Maternity Unit ; in addition an Ante-Natal Clinic is held twice a month at the Camborne Community Centre, Camborne, by the District Nurse/Midwives, and where dental care is offered to expectant mothers, few of whom, however, accept it.

Midwifery

There were 487 births in the district during the year, occurring as follows :—

Born in Hospital	241
Born in Nursing Home	45
Born at Home	201
	<hr/>
	487
	<hr/>

The above births gave rise to the following work by District Nurse/Midwives and Health Visitors.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal visits to cases.	3,780
Domiciliary Confinements	201
Other Midwifery and Maternity Visits ...	4,303
	<hr/>
	8,284
	<hr/>

Staff Concerned

District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors...	4
District Nurse/Midwives	5
District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitor ... (Shared with Kerrier Area)	$\frac{1}{2}$
District Nurse (Male)	1
	<hr/>
	$10\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>

Infant Welfare

The infant and mother are looked after by the Midwife until 28 days after birth, where the birth occurred at home ; or, where birth occurred in hospital and either there is some nursing care required for mother and child, or the mother and child are discharged before 10 days after delivery.

After the Midwife has withdrawn from the case, the care of the infant is supervised by the Health Visitor.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held as follows :—

Camborne	...	Every Wednesday	...	2—4 p.m.
Redruth	...	Every Thursday	...	2—4 p.m.
Illogan	...	2nd and 4th Thursday	...	2—4 p.m.

All these Clinics are supervised by qualified Health Visitors and clerical assistance is given by voluntary workers.

Advice on feeding and upbringing of babies, and also on the value of immunization and vaccination, which, if desired, can be carried out by the Assistant School Medical Officer, who attends at each Centre at least once a month. Demonstrations and health talks are also given by the Health Visitors.

2. Home Help Service.

This service is paid for by the County Council so far as the wages of the Home Helps are concerned. The organisation and allotment of duties is carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service at the Camborne Community Centre. The value of the service is shown by the increasing demands on it shown by the fact that the establishment of 1951 which was 16 had been raised to 20 by the end of 1952 and still remains the same at the end of 1955.

3. Ambulance Service.

The County Ambulance Service is carried out from Tolvean Depot at Redruth and gives excellent coverage of the area. It is interesting to note that all the ambulances normally operating from the depot are in constant wireless communication with the depot, and can be switched at will from routine duties to deal with emergencies.

4. National Assistance Act, 1948 — Section 47.

No action was taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

SECTION C.

1. Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1955.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Typhoid Fever.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever...	2	3	7	13	—	4	1	—	—	—	2	2	34
Whooping Cough	—	3	—	5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	9
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	4	—	1	19	19	46	144	40	—	—	1	—	274
Pneumonia	3	6	4	9	5	4	1	—	—	—	1	2	35
Acute Poliomyelitis :													
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	7	—	3	—	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	11	12	10	7	8	10	16	16	8	19	4	116
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary ...	2	4	5	6	3	1	1	5	2	2	9	6	46
Non- Pulmonary ...	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	1	11
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

2. Comparative Figures for previous years.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	34	26	31	82	56
Whooping Cough	11	56	199	7	104
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	9	8	4	5	10
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	274	4	1,117	117	280
Pneumonia	35	35	35	35	37
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)...	—	1	2	—	5
Food Poisoning	11	33	1	3	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	116	126	106	100	30
Acute Rheumatism	—	—	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	21	10	1	19
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	37	35	50	37	31
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary ..	4	3	6	7	18

3. Comparative Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases. (Provisional figures based on quarterly returns.)

Notifications (Corrected)	Camborne- Redruth	England and Wales
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.00
Meningococcal Infection	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.96	0.73
Whooping Cough	0.31	1.77
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.28	0.10
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	7.73	15.60
Pneumonia	0.98	0.62
Acute Poliomyelitis (including encephalitis)		
Paralytic	0.00	0.08
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.06
Food Poisoning	0.31	0.28
Puerperal Pyrexia	22.92 (a)	17.79 (a)
Dysentery	0.00	0.82

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

4. Total Number of Infectious Diseases admitted to the County Isolation Hospital during 1954.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Colitis	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Myositis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles with Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough with Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sprained ankle and hysteria..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Tonsillitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Erythema, Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ...	1	4	—	—	2	1	—	2	1	1	1	2	15

5. General Comment.

The year 1955 was an epidemic year for measles, otherwise little of note occurred in the incidence of the common fever.

Special notice should be taken of the rather considerable rise in notification of tuberculosis which is dealt with below.

6. Meningitis.

A single case of meningococcal meningitis was reported during the year. No further case occurred in contacts.

7. Scarlet Fever and Erysipelas.

There was a slightly higher incidence of scarlet fever in 1955 than in 1954 but the increase was not great and the cases were of a mild nature.

8. Whooping Cough.

There were only a few cases of whooping cough notified this year compared with previous years. This I think is more a chance variation in the figures rather than a result of immunization, as Table 3 above showing that the national incidence remained at a much higher level than did the local incidence. However, a substantial number of children did receive immunization against whooping cough during the year, mostly in combination with immunization against diphtheria.

The figures are :—

	Primary	Refresher
0—5 years	358	1
5—15 years	31	91
Totals	389	92

As year by year the new babies are immunized there is every hope that the disease will die out. It must be emphasised, however, that it is important to immunize children against whooping cough at an early age as it is children under the age of one year who suffer most severely from the disease. If immunization can be completed before the child is six months old, so much the better, and it must therefore be realised that, as three injections are needed to immunize the child, the first injection must be given at three months.

Mothers often feel that a baby of this age is too young for immunization and that they would like to wait until the baby is bigger. Experience shows that the younger children show less reaction than older ones, and also object to immunization less. Mothers who have tried to hold a healthy fourteen month old baby for his third injection will remember the experience with distaste.

9. Measles.

A minor epidemic of measles occurred during the year.

10. Diphtheria.

The district continues to be free of diphtheria during the year.

Unfortunately there was a considerable falling off in the number of children immunized against the disease during the year, compared with 1954 being :—

Age	Primary		Refresher	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
0—5 years	562	377	803	160
5—15 years	95	48		

The total number of children immunized in the age groups is :

0—5 years	1,591	} 71.1%
5—15 years	3,775	

11. Smallpox.

No contacts are known to have entered the area during the year.

The following vaccinations were carried out :—

	Primary	Re-vaccination	Total
0—5 years	138	2	140
5—15 years	24	5	29
Over 15 years ...	30	67	97
Totals ...	192	74	266

12. Dysentery and Food Poisoning.

Eleven cases were notified during the year in the whole area, which is a rate of only 0.31 per 1,000 estimated population. The cases were sporadic and widely separated and did not appear to have any common factor.

13. Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

This year the district was free of any case of “ polio ” — in fact there have been only three cases in the last four years.

The results of the immunization of hundreds of thousands of children in the United States and Canada has proved that a reasonable degree of immunity can be obtained by use of the ‘ Salk ’ type vaccine, and a similar type of vaccine has been produced in England for use here. It is hoped that production of the vaccine will eventually reach a sufficient level to allow vaccination of all children whose parents request it, in the next few years.

14. Puerperal Pyrexia.

The level of notification was roughly the same as in 1954.

15. Tuberculosis.

Number of Cases on Notification Register at 31st December, 1955

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Males	147	24	171
Females	101	16	117
Totals ...	248	40	288

Age Distribution of New Cases and Mortality during 1955

Ages	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	3	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15	1	1	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-45	15	8	23	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
45-65	9	1	10	1	-	1	6	1	7	-	-	-
65 & over	4	-	4	1	-	1	4	-	4	-	-	-
Totals	32	11	43	2	2	4	10*	2	12*	-	-	-

* Includes one death where primary cause was not
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

New cases	37
No. of persons recovered	30
No. of persons transferred to other areas ...	14
No. of persons died from other causes	—
No. of persons died from tuberculosis	12
No. of persons transferred from other areas...	5
No. of posthumous notifications	2

Year	New Notifications	Total Cases on Register	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population	Case Mortality per 1,000 cases
1948 ...	40	162	28	0.77	172
1949 ...	57	196	23	0.64	117
1950 ...	36	223	21	0.58	94
1951 ...	49	242	12	0.34	49
1952 ...	54	263	14	0.39	53
1953 ...	56	301	10	0.28	33
1954 ...	39	296	12	0.36	40
1955 ...	48	288	12	0.31	42

The number of new notifications annually, and the death rate appear to have reached a steady level over the last five years.

There is one figure which has altered very considerably in the above table and that is in the number of cases notified as recovered. This has risen from 15 in 1954 to 30 in 1955, and may well be a pointer to the future.

Household Contact Tracing and B.C.G. Vaccination

No. of cases on register	296
No. of new cases	37
No. of contacts of new cases, under 20 years of age...	51
No. found to be Mantoux Positive	20
No. found to be Mantoux Negative	26
No. awaiting examination	5
No. refused vaccination	—
No. received B.C.G. vaccination	24
No. refused B.C.G. vaccination	1
No. awaiting B.C.G. vaccination	1

In addition 17 contacts not directly in the households concerned received B.C.G. vaccination.

This year a great change has come over the figure reported under this heading.

Whereas in 1954 it was possible to find 200 contacts of 39 new cases, in 1955 only 51 contacts were found who had not previously been seen. It was found, however, that there were a considerable number of contacts who had already been seen as contacts of other cases. In other words it seems that we are narrowing down the tuberculosis to a few family groups who are in constant touch with one another.

Protection of Adolescents by B.C.G. Vaccination

During the year 1955 there were 383 children in the age group eligible for B.C.G. vaccination.

The figures below show the results of the year's work compared with those for 1954.

Skin Testing

	1954	1955
No. of children whose parents refused investigation	81	85
No. of children awaiting investigation at end of year	28	15
No. of children skin tested	336	268
No. of children previously seen at the Chest Clinic	—	15
Totals	<u>445</u>	<u>383</u>

Results of Skin Tests

	1954	1955
Already immune	91	65
Not immune	245	203
Totals	<u>336</u>	<u>268</u>

Vaccination

	1954	1955
Awaiting B.C.G. vaccination at end of year	2	—
B.C.G. vaccinated	243	203
Totals	<u>245</u>	<u>203</u>

Level of immunity in those tested

Out of 268 children skin tested, only 61, or 23.71% reached the stage where immunity could be assumed, and 76.29% (203) were still susceptible. 203 were then vaccinated.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report

For the year ending 31st December, 1955.

*Public Health Department,
Veor,
Camborne.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit herewith my report for the year ending the 31st December, 1955.

As usual a considerable amount of time was expended on meat inspection, but in addition to routine matters the Slum Clearance Survey was completed, and a programme for the next ten years was submitted to the Ministry. The Council commenced the operation of this programme by the declaration of two Clearance Areas early in the year.

During the year an attempt was made to increase the number of inspections made to food premises, and although the number of inspections was increased as compared with previous years, I am far from satisfied with the progress which was made. I trust I shall be able to report more favourably on this aspect of the work in my next report.

I am indebted to the following officers for information and data which are included under section "Water" and "Housing" in my report :—Mr. L. V. Ockford, Water Engineer, Camborne Water Company ; Mr. T. F. King, M.I.Mun.E., Water Engineer ; Mr. N. Barrett, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., A.M.I.W.E., Engineer and Surveyor ; and Mr. J. Lenten, Housing Officer.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C. F. BAXTER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water.

Redruth Area.

1. The quality of the mains supply was found to be satisfactory throughout the year. Although it was possible to maintain supplies throughout the season in spite of the drought, it was however becoming difficult to maintain supplies right at the end of the season, and if it was not for the immediate heavy rains within the matter of a fortnight or so it would have been necessary to curtail supplies.

The chutes and wells were, as usual, indifferent as to quality but adequate as to quantity except in one or two instances when some of the shallow wells were barely sufficient to maintain supplies.

2. All raw water to mains was tested regularly and found to be satisfactory. The results are as follows :—

Main Water Supply Sources.

Penstruthal Intake	...	Mar. Satisfactory	June Satisfactory
		Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Satisfactory
Filtrick Intake	...	Mar. Satisfactory	June Satisfactory
		Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Suspicious
Penventon Intake	...	Mar. Satisfactory	June Satisfactory
		Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Satisfactory
Distribution Mains	...	Mar. Satisfactory	June Satisfactory
		Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Satisfactory
Cathedral Shaft	...	Mar. Satisfactory	June Satisfactory
		Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Satisfactory
Sandy Lane	...	—	Aug. Satisfactory
		—	Dec. Satisfactory
South Francis	...	Sept. Satisfactory	Dec. Satisfactory

Wells and Chutes.

Watergate Chute	...	Jan. Satisfactory	July Satisfactory
Parsonage Well	...	Jan. Satisfactory	July Unsatisfactory
Tolskithy Chute	...	Jan. Unsatisfactory	July Unsatisfactory
Vogue Chute	...	Jan. Satisfactory	July Satisfactory
Five Chutes	...	Jan. Satisfactory	July Satisfactory
Trevethan Well	...	Jan. Satisfactory	July Satisfactory
Carnmarth Quarry	...	Jan. Satisfactory	Aug. Satisfactory
Gordon Adit	...	Jan. Satisfactory	Aug. Satisfactory
Redruth Coombe	...	Feb. Satisfactory	—
Manorwidden Spring	...	Feb. Satisfactory	Aug. Unsatisfactory
Penhalurick Chute	...	Feb. Satisfactory	—
Lanner Stand Tap	...	Feb. Satisfactory	Sept. Satisfactory
Carnmarth Chute	...	Feb. Satisfactory	Aug. Satisfactory
Pennance Well	...	Feb. Satisfactory	Aug. Suspicious
Tiddy's Chute	...	Feb. Unsatisfactory	Aug. Unsatisfactory
Little Reskadinnick	...	Mar. Satisfactory	Oct. Unsatisfactory
Roscroggan Well	...	Mar. Satisfactory	Oct. Unsatisfactory

Wells and Chutes—(continued)

Stennack Chute	...	Apr.	Unsatisfactory	Nov.	Satisfactory
Knave-go-by	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Oct.	Unsatisfactory
Penponds Chute	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Oct.	Unsatisfactory
Roseworthy	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Oct.	Satisfactory
Troon Adit	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Nov.	Satisfactory
Menadarva	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Oct.	Unsatisfactory
Oak Well	...	Apr.	Satisfactory	Oct.	Satisfactory
Treskillard Tap	...	May	Unsatisfactory	Nov.	Satisfactory
Bolcnowe Moor Pump	..	May	Unsatisfactory	Nov.	Satisfactory
Bolcnowe Chute	...	May	Unsatisfactory	Nov.	Suspicious
Betty Adit	...	May	Unsatisfactory	Nov.	Suspicious
Croft Michael	...	May	Satisfactory	Nov.	Suspicious
Bosleake Well	...	May	Satisfactory	Dec.	Unsatisfactory
Chycarne Moor	...	May	Satisfactory	Nov.	Satisfactory
Nancekuke Chute	...	June	Satisfactory	—	—
Mawla Well	...	June	Unsatisfactory	—	—
Cambrose Well	...	July	Unsatisfactory	—	—

3. Notices advising boiling are placed at all wells and chutes when unsatisfactory results are obtained.

Camborne-Illogan Area.

This area is supplied by the Camborne Water Company.

The rainfall registered at Boswyn was 43.91 inches. This amount is about average for a normal year, but the summer period was very hot and dry. The yield from the springs fell to a very low level and during the latter months of the year it was only possible to pump sixteen hours a day at Penponds. Yet despite this very dry summer season no restrictions were imposed on the consumers.

The total amount of water supplied was 293 million gallons, an increase of 11 million gallons over the previous year. Of this quantity 101 million gallons were pumped at Penponds. The average daily consumption was 800,000 gallons giving an average per head of 37 gallons.

The quality of the water supplied was satisfactory, 86 samples were taken for bacteriological examination from taps throughout the area and all were reported on as being satisfactory. Chemical samples taken were also reported on by the analyst as satisfactory for a domestic supply.

Some difficulty was experienced in maintaining pressures on the higher levels at the eastern end of the town, but this should be overcome during the ensuing year by the use of a booster pump that has recently been installed. Tests so far carried out have proved satisfactory and it is hoped shortly that this pump will be operating daily.

The treatment of the water is by filtration, chlorination and lime which is used for neutralising acidity and pH adjustment. Micro strainers are also used at Trevu for further clarification of the water.

The approximate number of houses within the area supplied by the Company is 6,734 and the estimated number of persons residing in these houses is 21,250. All these houses are connected to the mains and, in addition, five houses with an estimated population of 20 are supplied by standpipe.

New services installed during the year numbered 161.

2. Complaints.

The following complaints were received and dealt with during the year :—

Choked sewers and drains	...	...	...	633
Unsatisfactory housing conditions	...	...	...	150
Unsatisfactory sanitation and drainage	...	...	...	11
Overcrowding	...	...	...	109
Water supply	...	...	...	5
Rats and mice	...	...	...	161
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	33
				<hr/>
				1,102
				<hr/>

3. Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following works were carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors during the period under review :—

Premises connected to the sewer	...	...	...	141
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	633
New water closets installed	...	...	...	160
Water closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	26
Pail or pit closets abolished	...	...	...	21
Pail or pit closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	1
New cesspools provided	...	...	...	9
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	1
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	...	59
Eavesgutters and downpipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	41
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	39
Walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	28
Floors repaired	...	...	...	7
Window frames and sashcords repaired or renewed	...	...	...	22
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	11
Water supply improved	...	...	...	8
Cooking apparatus repaired or renewed	...	...	...	3
Fireplaces, chimneys, flues repaired	...	...	...	27
Externals walls repaired	...	...	...	3
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	17

4. Verminous Premises.

Six verminous premises were dealt with by spraying during the year. All of the premises were infested with fleas. Normal treatment with Zaldecide proved effective in all cases.

5. Disinfection of Houses.

Thirty-two visits were made following the notification of infectious diseases, ten of the dwellings were disinfected as a result of such visits and six library books were removed from the premises, and destroyed on the instructions of the library concerned.

6. Salvage.

The following quantities of salvage were disposed of during the year :—

		TONS	CWTS.	QRS.
Mixed Waste Paper	...	397	19	3
Container Waste	...	106	8	2
Books	...	7	4	3
Newsprint	...	5	9	1
Metals	...	10	16	2
Rags	...	14	10	0
		542	8	3

During October this Authority, together with the majority of Cornish Authorities, found it practically impossible to sell baled salvage. After storing paper for some six weeks, we were fortunate in finding an outlet for a limited quantity of paper, and I feel we were even more fortunate in contracting with a large waste paper company in the Midlands for the disposal of paper during the next five years, with a reasonable price guarantee. Transporting paper from Cornwall to the Mills is a most costly affair, and in times of waste paper surplus is the major factor against continued sales.

We have given serious consideration to the transport of paper to the Mills in South Wales by sea, but, to date, have been unable to overcome many of the difficulties which confront us with this type of transport. Should we eventually be able to utilize sea transport, I feel sure, costs will be materially decreased.

7. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The following quantities of refuse were deposited at the Treskillard tip during the year :—

Household and Trade Refuse	...	5,495 loads.
Tip Covering	...	1,154 loads.
Rubbish and Highway Sweepings	...	4,184 loads.

The 5,495 loads of refuse represent 38,465 cubic yards.

An attempt is now being made, for the first time, to give a weekly collection service to all premises situated in the area. Unfortunately some premises are so inaccessible that a vehicle cannot be taken within reasonable distance of the properties, and thus these properties remain without this service. These houses are mostly without sewerage, mains water supply, etc., and many are receiving consideration from the slum clearance aspect. Many will rate for clearance or change of use and will no longer constitute a problem to the cleansing side of the department.

The disposal of refuse by controlled tipping at Treskillard continues. During 1955 the tip was being dug over every weekend and most evenings by unauthorised persons. The local police were asked to watch the tip and they found some nine persons working over the tip at different times. All nine persons were successfully prosecuted and no further disturbance to tip covering has been reported.

An insecticide has been used most successfully at the tip during the summer months, and only a slight infestation of rats has occurred.

8. Sewerage.

The pumping stations at Portreath and Penponds continued normal operations throughout the year, and the following quantities of sewage were pumped :—

Portreath	...	...	31,285,000 gallons.
Penponds	...	...	14,948,000 gallons.

No major works have been carried out during the past twelve months in connection with existing sewers and the sewerage system of the area has continued to work satisfactorily.

9. Cesspool and Gully Emptying.

The number of gully emptyings effected during the twelve months was 6,621 and 233 cesspools were emptied during the year. It is significant that the number of cesspools emptied increases year by year as houses continue to be built in un-sewered areas.

10. Rats and Mice.

Sewer Infestations.

The annual treatment of sewers was carried out with the following results :—

		Manholes baited	Poison Baits taken
Camborne	...	84	38
Illogan and Portreath	...	46	15
Redruth	...	129	63
		<hr/> 259	<hr/> 116

Approximately 9% of the manholes in the area were test baited and approximately 10% of these were found to be infested with rats.

Surface Infestations.

All domestic property in the area continues to be treated for infestation of rats free of charge, whilst charges are made for work at business premises.

The following table shows the extent of the work carried out during the year :—

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	Business, etc.	
No. of premises inspected as a result of :—					
(a) Notification ...	2	90	7	39	138
(b) Survey ...	5	129	8	13	155
(c) Primarily for some other purpose ...	9	659	6	521	1,193
No. of properties found to be infested by :—					
(a) Rats ...	15	170	4	55	244
(b) Mice ...	—	15	1	7	23
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authority ...	15	185	5	62	267

11. Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority...	27	9	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	86	52	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	113	61	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found (if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	7	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	2	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	2	—	—	—	—
Total ...	17	15	—	2	—

SECTION E.

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	614
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,119
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	24
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	415

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	113
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

The Slum Clearance Survey.

The Slum Clearance Survey was completed by March, 1955. Some 600 houses were inspected and recorded in detail, and a report

on the Survey was finally placed before the Council in July. The biggest difficulty which the Survey underlined was met in the St. Day, Lanner area in which nearly 5,000 persons reside. The area consists of the villages of St. Day, Carharrack and Lanner, and to date the Council have not provided mains sewerage. The majority of the houses in this area have not been provided with private drainage arrangements, such as cesspools or septic tanks, and the arrangements for the disposal of waste water at such premises is most unsatisfactory. The scheme for sewerage the whole of the area is at present being produced by the Council's Surveyor, and, until the sewers and disposal plant have been constructed, it is practically impossible to deal with housing in this area.

The houses of this area have very low rents, and we found during the Survey that 127 houses had rents varying between 1/5 and 5/- a week. 7/6 per week rent was looked at as a fairly high rental in this area. Such low rents bring the houses rapidly into the category of Individual Unfit houses under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and, as many of the houses are between 100 and 150 years old, the roofs, to say the least, cannot be expected to remain watertight indefinitely. The cost of a new roof is prohibitive whilst the present rental system remains. The general difficulty in this area is such that the Council sent a delegation of members and officials to London before submitting their programme in connection with Slum Clearance. It is proposed to include 96 houses in Clearance areas during the first five years, and two areas, which each contained four houses, were submitted to the Ministry for confirmation during the year under review. The demolition of one of these areas was almost completed by the end of 1955, and a Public Inquiry, to be held early in 1956 had been arranged for the other area. It was generally estimated that some 350 houses would be dealt with by either demolition or closure during the next ten years.

It is worthy of note that during the year various owners wrote the Council asking for Demolition Orders to be made against their property, as they could no longer continue to subsidize the repair of the property from their own pockets. One feels that a point of absurdity has been reached when owners are forced to take action of this nature. Some occupiers are paying less rent per month than the Council charge weekly for the use of a motor garage.

4. Applications for re-housing.

Number of tenancy applications—January, 1955 ...	578
Number of tenancy applications—December, 1955 ...	662
Number of Council tenants transferred during 1955.	72
Number of families housed during 1955	136

5. New Housing.

(1) Local Authority Housing.

(a) Progress.

During 1955 new dwellings were erected on the estates at Illogan, Weeth, Camborne, and W.A.A.F. Site, Portreath, and the following were completed :—

- (i) Illogan Estate.
48 Traditional Dwellings.
- (ii) Weeth, Camborne.
19 Traditional Dwellings.
16 Non-Traditional (Cornish Unit) Dwellings.
- (iii) W.A.A.F. Site, Portreath.
4 Temporary Hut Dwellings.

(b) Present Position.

At the 31st December, 1955, the following numbers of houses had been completed since the War :—

(a) Traditional Dwellings.

1. North Close, Redruth	...	...	...	16
2. Treleigh Estate, Redruth	...	...	...	95
3. Tresavean Estate, Lanner	...	...	...	28
4. Treloweth Road, Pool	...	...	...	28
5. Paynters Lane End, Illogan...	...	...	...	38
6. Pengegon Estate, Camborne	...	...	...	76
7. Crane Road, Camborne	...	...	...	69
8. Illogan Estate	...	...	...	75
9. Weeth Estate, Camborne	...	...	...	19

(b) Permanent Non-Traditional Dwellings.

1. Prefabricated Aluminium Dwellings at Pengegon Estate	...	...	...	...	40
2. Cornish Unit Dwellings at Pengegon Estate	...				68
3. Cornish Unit Shops and Flats at Pengegon Estate					4
4. Cornish Unit Dwellings at Treleigh Estate	...				130
5. Cornish Unit Dwellings at Park Bottom Estate...					38
6. Cornish Unit Dwellings at Illogan Estate	...				36
7. Cornish Unit Dwellings at Weeth, Camborne	...				50

(c) Temporary Dwellings.

1. Prefabricated " Arcon " Dwellings at Pengegon Estate	...	...	...	...	...	50
2. Prefabricated Aluminium Dwellings at Pengegon Estate	...	...	...	...	...	28
3. Prefabricated Aluminium Dwellings at Strawberry Lane, Redruth	...	...	...	...	...	22
4. Converted Nissen Hut Dwellings at W.A.A.F. Site, Portreath	...	...	...	...	...	18
						<hr/> 928 <hr/>

(c) Future Programme.

1. Illogan Housing Estate.

The completion by Direct Labour, of 16 Traditional Houses and the erection of a further 10 Traditionals.

2. Weeth Housing Estate, Camborne.

The completion, by Direct Labour, of 46 Traditional Houses and the erection of a further 26 Traditionals.

3. Four Lanes Housing Estate, Redruth.

The erection of 18 Traditional Houses.

(2) Private Enterprise.

During 1955, a further 23 dwellings were completed by Private Enterprise making a total of 168 dwellings since the War.

6. Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Fifteen licences were issued during the year for the placing of individual caravans, and one licence was issued in connection with a camping site for five caravans. Seven camping sites are now licenced in the area, and these sites have been managed in a most satisfactory manner.

SECTION F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk.

Seventy-one routine samples of milk were taken throughout the year from milk retailers, and four of these samples failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test.

Comparative percentages of samples satisfying the Methylene Blue Test are as follows :—

Year	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
% passed	99.31	62.5	66.4	78.3	95.83	88.41	94.3	94.35

2. Milk Licences.

Milk Licences were issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences for Pasteurised Milk	...	...	23
Dealers' Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	13

3. Meat Inspection.

Table I. Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	2,596	1,153	13,790	3,185	110,887
Number inspected.	2,447	1,082	12,939	3,066	103,265
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	4	22	18	85
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	859	341	46	177	4,644
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	35 %	34 %	0.5 %	6.4 %	4.5 %
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	5	8	9	0	63
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	150	134	15	0	4,471
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	6.3 %	14 %	0.2 %	0	4.4 %
CYSTICERCUS BOVIS :					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	15	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	15	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned ...	0	0	0	0	0

Table II. Meat Inspection — Reasons for Condemnation.

Description	Number killed	Number inspected	Tuberculosis		Other Conditions												Totals				
			Generalised	Localised	Dropsy and Emaciation	Pyæmia	Injury and bruising	Distomatosis	Parasitic	Tumours and Abscesses	Pneumonia	Actinomycosis	Cavernous Angioma	Pleurisy	Fever	Jaundice		Toxaemia	Cysticercus Bovis	Miscellaneous	
BOVINES	3,749	3,529	13	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Whole carcasses	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Part carcasses	...	...	...	107	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	2	174
Heads and tongues	...	...	...	219	...	...	...	...	...	13	1	2	...	21	...	...	...	...	15	12	273
Lungs	...	...	...	68	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	1	24	...	...	...	...	...	15	10	800
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	625	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
CALVES	13,790	12,939	9	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	5	...	4	31
Whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Part carcasses	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	6	38
Lungs	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
SHEEP	3,185	3,066	...	...	14	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	18
Whole carcasses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Part carcasses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	138	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	164	
PIGS	110,887	103,265	63	...	26	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	5	15	...	16	148
Whole carcasses	...	...	...	9	...	...	29	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	66	
Part carcasses	...	...	...	3,392	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,392
Heads and tongues	...	...	...	2,002	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,102	...	...	47	...	...	...	...	7	4,158	
Lungs	...	...	...	1,874	...	...	...	...	2,671	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	4,555	
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	131,611	122,799	85	7,695	49	8	57	647	2,819	86	2,129	47	24	71	23	7	21	45	87	...	...

131,611 animals were slaughtered in the Urban District during 1955. It will be seen from table one that 8,812 animals were not inspected, and this forms 6.69% of the total slaughtered. The greater majority of the uninspected animals consisted of pigs which were slaughtered during week-ends and forwarded to the London market either on Sunday or very early on Monday mornings. By the end of the year 23 slaughter houses were licenced for operation in the district. With such a diversity of slaughtering points, meat inspection has again demanded a considerable amount of the Inspectors' time, often to the detriment of other sections of Public Health work. In the main premises have been kept in good condition, and apart from the wholesale slaughter houses, which have been slaughtering at week-ends, the general co-operation between slaughterhouse owners and Inspectors has been excellent. Applications have been made to the Council during the year for the inspection of meat on Sundays, and I am pleased to be able to report that the Council have adhered to their previous decisions in this matter on the grounds that their staff should not be called upon to carry out routine duties on Sundays. I feel, however, that it should not be possible for 7,000 pigs to leave this area unexamined in a period of twelve months, as an efficient examination at the distant meat markets is impossible.

No unusual diseases have been found in carcasses slaughtered in the area, and the detection of fifteen cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* speaks well of the diligent manner in which the Meat Inspectors have carried out their duties in this area.

4. Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Seventy slaughtermen were licensed under the above Act during the year. This is an increase of eight over the previous twelve months.

5. Other Foods.

111 visits were made to shops and premises other than slaughter-houses in connection with the examination and condemnation of food for human consumption.

The following food was condemned :—

Canned Meats	...	...	...	1,703 lbs.
Canned Vegetables	...	...	...	283 lbs.
Canned Fruits	...	...	...	1,334 lbs.
Canned Milk	...	...	...	104 lbs.
Miscellaneous Canned Foods	...	...	...	112 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	49 lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	—
Meat and Fish	...	...	...	148 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	...	8,406 lbs.
				<hr/> 12,139 lbs. <hr/>

Total weight of other foods condemned :—

5 tons. 8 cwts. 1 qr. 15 lbs.

6. Food and Drugs Samples.

The following information concerning samples of food taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, has been received from Mr. H. A. Rundle, Weights and Measures Department, Cornwall County Council :—

Article Sampled	Number procured	Genuine	Adulterated
Milk	124	124	—
Ice Cream	3	3	—
Butter	4	4	—
Pork Sausages	3	3	—
Lard	2	2	—
Fresh Orange Drink	1	1	—
Lemon Curd	1	1	—
Apricot Jam	1	1	—
Shredded Beef Suet	1	1	—
Orange Squash	1	1	—
Jelly Crystals	1	1	—
Table Jelly	1	1	—
Raisins	1	1	—
Ground Almonds	1	1	—
Fish Cakes	1	1	—
Jelly Beans	1	1	—
Custard Powder	1	1	—
Corned Beef	1	1	—
Honey	1	1	—

As is usual, milk was sampled more than any other commodity and all samples proved genuine with both fat and solids-not-content well up to the average for the County.

The only sample reported sub-standard was one of ice cream but the deficiency was a small one and a further sample procured at a later date proved to be of good quality with fat content above the prescribed standard.

7. Food Premises.

521 visits were made to food premises.

The food premises register now contains records of premises as follows :—

Grocers	...	...	...	179
Butchers	...	...	...	37
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	38
Restaurants, etc.	...	...	...	39
Confectioners	...	...	...	65
Bakehouses	...	...	...	19
Ice Cream	...	...	...	141
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	27
Number of food premises in the area	...	...	...	379
Food premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream	...	...	...	141
Premises registered for the manufacture of sausages or preserved foods	...	...	...	60
Premises registered for the cooking of fish	...	...	...	38

269 visits were paid to registered food premises during the year.

8. Ice Cream.

Ten new premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream during 1955. This brings the total of such premises now registered in this area to 141, of which less than six sell ice cream made at their own premises.

Thirty-six samples of ice cream were taken during the year and upon the results of Methylene Blue Tests were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade I	...	...	29
Provisional Grade II	...	...	7
Provisional Grade III	...	...	—
Provisional Grade IV	...	...	—

Fourteen of these samples were taken from ice cream produced in the area.

